

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF  
DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. **03V-227** by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**Part 573 Report Date:** June 17, 2003

**Date Faxed:** June 18, 2003

**MANUFACTURER:** Freightliner LLC

**MANUFACTURER CONTACT:** Mr. Tim Blubaugh  
Warranty Analyst, Campaign Administration

**FAX:** 503-745-6800

**SUBJECT:** 2,000 Freightliner and Sterling truck tractors equipped with Jost JSK 37U series fifth wheels and manufactured between September 3, 1999 through April 14, 2003. The bracket pin connects the fifth wheel top plate to its mounting surface. A fatigue crack can develop in the weld under certain loading conditions. If left undetected or corrected it could lead to the separation of the fifth wheel top plate from its mounting surface without warning, possibly resulting in a crash. (Freightliner Campaign No. FL-411)

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be written **ONLY** if we have additional comments or concerns.

**Please provide us with the model and model years of these Freightliner and Sterling truck tractors.**

This recall was the subject of an investigation (BQ03-014) conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

As stated in Part 573.6 submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to be completed approximately July 25, 2003. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due October 30, 2003.

If you have any questions, please call:



Judith Taylor, Safety Defect Analyst on (202) 366-9525  
or George Person, Chief on (202) 366-5210  
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Recall Management Division